

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: RIS – QANTAS Sale Act

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 19

Type of question: FPA Tuesday 26 May 2015, page 20

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 July 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: I have got questions for you, Mr McNamara. There was a Prime Minister's exemption on the RIS provided for the Qantas Sale Act in March last year. How many other prime ministerial exemptions have been (a) sought and (b) granted?

Mr McNamara: There have been no other exemptions granted. I do not think I could give you an answer on the first question because—

Senator Cormann: We might take that on notice. If we can assist you further, we will provide you with that information.

Answer:

- (a) The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet does not record requests for exemptions in a way that would readily allow the requested information to be identified. To attempt to provide this information would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- (b) As advised at the hearings, no other exemptions have been granted.